

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5938
ANSWERED ON:10.04.2017
Students Enrolled under Mid Day Meal Scheme
Dubey Shri Nishikant

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of States utilizing the Centre's share for the Mid Day Meal Scheme properly;
- (b) whether the Government has assessed the performance of the State Governments in reaching the benefit of the Mid Day Meal to the actually needy children;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reason therefor; and
- (e) the details of the number of children enrolled in Government and Government Aided Schools and the number that benefited under the scheme during each of the last two years, State/UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a): The Mid- Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) under which hot cooked meals are served to children studying in classes I to VIII in Government and Government Aided schools is being implemented in all the States and UTs. During 2015-16, 10.03 crore children studying in 11.50 lakh institutions availed mid-day meal on school working days under the Scheme.

(b) to (d): Several evaluation studies have been conducted to assess the performance of Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) in the States/UTs. These Independent evaluation studies have shown that MDMS has helped in preventing classroom hunger; promoting school participation and fostering social equality and enhancing gender equity thereby facilitating overall healthy growth of children. The Planning Commission in its evaluation report of. 2010 covering 17 States/UTs has observed that the Cooked Mid Day Meal Program has been successful in addressing classroom hunger in sample schools and created a platform for children of all social and economic backgrounds to take meals together, thereby facilitating achievement of the objective of social equity. In addition, Joint Review Missions (JRM)s consisting of educational and nutritional experts review the scheme through field visits and assess the actual implementation of the Scheme at the ground level from time to time. So far 8 JRM)s have covered 28 States/UTs. The reports prepared by the JRM)s are shared with the States/UTs for taking corrective action on the deficiencies reported in the implementation of the scheme.

(e): The State/UT-wise details of the number of children enrolled and benefited under the scheme during each of the last two years are at Annexure.

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